Flushing out ULFA Militants

6754. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons detained by army and other para-military forces in the ongoing operation to flush out militants and ULFA activists for interrogation in Dibrugarh area and its Suburbs as suspects having links with ULFA during the last three years, month-wise break-up;

(b) the names and addresses of persons from among those as in (a) above having confessed links with ULFA and/or contributed large sums of money to it and handed over to the local police alongwith the respective dates of so handing over, each person-wise details; and

(c) the details of specific cases under which the persons as in (b) above have been charged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SYEED): (a) to (c) The army and the para-military forces hand over the apprehended persons to State police as per legal and procedural requirements and do not detain the apprehended militants. Cases are registered against them at the local police stations under relevant laws such as Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, etc.

Tea Industry Helping in surgent Groups in Assam

6755. SHRI P. UPENDRA Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Assam Chief Minister has blamed the Tea Industry for helping various insurgent groups in the State;

(b) which are the tea companies involved in such nefarious activities; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) According to the State Government, it has come to their notice that three companies made payments to the extremists. The Companies have been asked by the State Government not to make payments in future.

Militants hold up in Hazratbal Shrine

6756. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of militants took shelter and held themselves up in Hazratbal Shrine in Kashmir and set it on fire when security forces tried to get on them; and

(b) if so, how the sanctity of the Shrine was restored and freed from militants hold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Information was received on October 15, 1993, that two locks of the outer doors of the premises in which the Holy Relic is kept, had been tampered with by some elements who had apparently sneaked into the Shrine in the guise of devotees. On receiving this information, and on verification of the same, after inspection by the management of the Shrine, the Shrine was immediately cordoned off to prevent any damage to or desecration of the Shrine and the Holy Relic and to isolate the anti-national elements inside the Shrine. With a view to provoking the security personnel and to create confusion which could facilitate their escape, the militants holed up inside the, Shrine, set fire to a barrack